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of the blood showed all the cases to be malarial sickness and their occurrence was demonstrated to be due to bites from gnats. Dr. Ezygan recommends, in this connection, a thorough investigation and study of local malaria, and the regulation of the river courses in that district."

GUATEMALA.

*Reports from Livingston—Fruit port.*LIVINGSTON, GUATEMALA, *September 12, 1901.*

SIR: I have to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended September 5, 1901:

Present officially estimated population, 3,000. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, none. Prevailing diseases, malarial. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: September 10, steamship *Managua*; crew, 17; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. September 12, steamship *Bergenseren*; crew, 17; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

W. K. FORT,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*The SURGEON-GENERAL, *U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*LIVINGSTON, GUATEMALA, *September 19, 1901.*

SIR: I have to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended September 19, 1901:

Present officially estimated population, 3,000. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, none; prevailing diseases, malarial. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bill of health was issued to the following vessel: September 9, steamship *Esther*.

Respectfully,

W. K. FORT,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*The SURGEON-GENERAL, *U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

*Report of the Hawaiian Territorial board of health on plague in Honolulu in June and July, 1901.*HONOLULU, H. I., *September 10, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a report from the Hawaiian Territorial board of health on the cases of plague which occurred at

this place from June 6 to July 16, inclusive. These cases were reported by this office to the Bureau as they occurred, together with all of the particulars obtainable at the time.

The board of health has tried to trace the origin and course of the infection and the inclosed report shows the result of their work, and also the small amount of information they were able to obtain from these people, who resent being questioned on health matters and who give misleading answers if they give any at all. The group of cases, 7 in all, from May 31 to July 17, inclusive, is recorded on a city map, and these foci will be carefully watched for a further recrudescence of plague when the rainy season begins.

For the past sixty days there has been very little rain, and a correspondingly large percentage of sunshine. The exact bearing these conditions have had on the cessation of the disease is not known, but in any event the advent of the rainy season will enable us to draw deductions of great interest and value.

Respectfully,

L. E. COFER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Chief Quarantine Officer, Hawaii.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Bacteriology of bubonic plague in Honolulu.

HONOLULU, H. I., June 30, 1901.

SIR: By direction of the board of health, through its executive officer, the following is submitted as a report upon the bacteriological investigations in connection with 4 recent cases of bubonic plague occurring in Honolulu:

It is an encouraging feature that no existing causative relation has been discovered between these cases and the single reported case of March 29, a fact which commends the thoroughness of the disinfecting and other prophylactic measures then employed. While it is impossible to state whether the recent cases were due to a fresh importation of the infection from the Orient, or simply a slight recrudescence of the local epidemic of 1900, the probabilities, judging from the experiences of other infected cities, point to the latter.

Through whatever avenue the disease gains access to a community, its specific cause, since its discovery in 1894, has been many times scientifically demonstrated to be the bacillus pestis bubonica, and only upon the recognition of the presence of this bacterium at the present time, the world over, is an absolute diagnosis made. The past few years have seen a vast amount of study and research expended in this direction, as demanded by its importance; since upon its advent in a community, the suspicions roused by the clinical aspects of the case demand, with the greatest practicable expedition, their confirmation or denial. Owing to the momentous problems involved concerning not only the saving of human lives, but the commercial, industrial, and social well-being of the community at large, the bacteriologist has had put upon him heavy responsibilities, which, in turn, have stimulated him to his best efforts, so that, to-day, the literature of the subject is no longer meager; and constantly improving methods of technique are tending more and more to render his work invaluable.

In our series of 4 cases, opportunity was afforded the department for the observation of 2 of the patients during one and two days, respec-